

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 04415 300739Z

15

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03 AID-20 IGA-02 H-03

OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11 DRC-01 /117 W

----- 035333

R 300659Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8072

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 4415

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, SA, ET

SUBJECT: SAUDI ARABIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA

REF: (A) STATE 160578; (B) STATE 156317; (C) JIDDA 3085

1. IN MEETING JULY 28 WITH MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAQQAF, AMBASSADOR DREW UPON INFORMATION IN REF B PROVIDING UPDATE ON ETHIOPIAN SITUATION.

2. AMBASSADOR ALSO MENTIONED THAT ETHIOPIANS HAD APPROACHED IRANIANS FOR ASSISTANCE AND NOTED THAT IRANIANS SEEMED SYMPATHETIC TO ETHIOPIAN AID REQUEST AS RELEVANT TO IRAN'S OWN SECURITY CONCERNS IN THE AREA. AMBASSADOR INQUIRED WHETHER SAG HAD MADE ANY DECISION ON ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA.

3. SAQQAF SEEMED SOMEWHAT SURPRISED THAT ETHIOPIANS HAD APPROACHED IRANIANS. HE REPLIED IN NEGATIVE TO QUESTION ON SAUDI DECISION ON AID SAYING IN EFFECT THAT ETHIOPIANS HAD NEVER REQUESTED ASSISTANCE. HE SAID THAT IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA IF THE ETHIOPIANS WERE TO SEND SOMEONE TO SAUDI ARABIA TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT.

4. RECOMMENDATION: IF DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY ADDIS
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 04415 300739Z

CONCUR, RECOMMEND EMBASSY ADDIS SUGGEST TO ETHIOPIAN

OFFICIALS THAT THEY INFORM SAUDI EMBASSY IN ADDIS OF
THEIR DESIRE TO SEND AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO SA TO
DISCUSS MATTER OF MUTUAL CONCERN INCLUDING SAUDI
ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA.
AKINS

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NNN

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